

March 2021

Aloha from the Capitol!

I am pleased to report that two bills meant to regulate noise control in House District 22 are moving forward in the legislature. This was an issue that many of my constituents raised in conversations.

<u>HB 296</u>: Restricts the use of leaf blowers in the Waikiki special improvement district within a residential zone or near a residence to between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on any day except Sunday or a state or federal holiday and between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on Sunday or any state or federal holiday. Allows commercial and hotel operators to operate leaf blowers on their premises at least one hundred feet away from a residential zone or residence between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on any day except Sunday or a state or federal holiday, and between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on Sunday or any state or federal holiday. Provides that leaf blowers used in special improvement districts during the permitted hours shall not emit more than eighty decibels of noise.

<u>SB 791</u>: Increases the minimum and potential maximum fine for violating certain provisions relating to the installation of a noisy muffler.

Senator Sharon Moriwaki and I rely heavily on our constituents to keep us informed so that we can continue to fight for you at the legislature. These two bills were brought forth by our constituents. We work as a team to fight for you.



This past month, I had the opportunity to visit MetroGrowHawaii a vertical farm in urban Honolulu. Vertical farming will get us one step closer to a more sustainable Hawaii. Thank you to Dr. Kakazu for opening his farm up to me and my colleagues.

2021 Taxes

Hawaii VITA & Financial Empowerment Solutions offer free tax return preparation for eligible Hawaii residents.

As this year is different than most years due to COVID19, an appointment is required.

For more information visit, www.hawaiitaxhelp.org or email: info@hawaiitaxhelp.org



The City and State have established phone numbers and websites where anyone can report a pothole. Contact the following hotlines with the location of the pothole and jurisdiction:

> City pothole report phone line: 808-768-7777 HART maintained roads: 808-566-2299 State maintained roads: 808-536-7852

Potholes can cause a lot of damage, such as a flat tire, cracked wheel, or even body damage. If your car is damaged by a pothole, you can be reimbursed by the City or the State.

For claims on roads maintained by the city: http://www.honolulu.gov/rep/site/ccl/onlineforms/Claim_Form.pdf

For claims on roads maintained by the state: https://ags.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/RMTC-001-20160909.pdf



To file a claim, take a photo of the pothole and the damage to your car. The person filing the claim should have the vehicle registration and insurance in their name. At the time of the incident, the person should also call HPD to file a police report. The flier should also send over receipts or invoices of payment for the damages along with the claim. After filing these claims, it may take several months before you may be reimbursed.



Rep. Belatti joined me on a mini-tour of District 22 for a segment of "TalkStory w/House Majority" hosted by Olelo Community Media



Floor conversations with colleagues Rep Branco and Rep Sayama



Contact Us: 808-586-8520 reptam@capitol.hawaii.gov

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